

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A ladder stand-off for use with a ladder having a pair of laterally spaced side rails defining a ladder width, said ladder stand-off comprising:

a beam having first and second ends;

a first arm fixedly connected at a first end thereof to said beam at a first point located between said first and second beam ends;

a second arm fixedly connected at a first end thereof to said beam at a second point located between said first and second beam ends, said second point being spaced from said first point a predetermined distance, wherein said first and second arms extend outward from said beam so as to be angularly divergent with respect to each other; and

means for detachably securing said beam to said ladder.

2. The ladder stand-off of claim 1 wherein said beam is straight.

3. The ladder stand-off of claim 1 further comprising a contact element pivotally connected to a second end of each of said first and second arms.

4. The ladder stand-off of claim 3 wherein each contact element comprises an L-shaped member having first and second sections, said first section being pivotally connected to said second end.

5. The ladder stand-off of claim 3 wherein each contact element comprises a U-shaped member having two side legs joined by a central web, said side legs straddling said second end.

6. The ladder stand-off of claim 3 wherein said second end of each arm includes a pair of flanges and each contact element is positioned between a corresponding pair of said flanges.

7. The ladder stand-off of claim 1 wherein said predetermined distance is less than said ladder width.

8. The ladder stand-off of claim 1 wherein a second end of said first arm and a second end of said second arm are spaced apart a distance that is less than the length of said beam.

9. The ladder stand-off of claim 1 wherein a second end of said first arm and a second end of said second arm are spaced apart a distance that is at least equal to said ladder width.

10. A ladder stand-off for use with a ladder having a pair of laterally spaced side rails defining a ladder width, said ladder stand-off comprising:

a beam having first and second ends;

a first arm fixedly connected at a first end thereof to said beam at a first point located between said first and second beam ends;

a second arm fixedly connected at a first end thereof to said beam at a second point located between said first and second beam ends, said second point being spaced from said first point a predetermined distance, wherein said first and second arms extend outward from said beam;

a contact element pivotally connected to a second end of each of said first and second arms; and

means for detachably securing said beam to said ladder.

11. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein said beam is straight.

12. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein each contact element comprises an L-shaped member having first and second sections, said first section being pivotally connected to said second end.

13. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein each contact element comprises a U-shaped member having two side legs joined by a central web, said side legs straddling said second end.

14. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein said second end of each arm includes a pair of flanges and each contact element is positioned between a corresponding pair of said flanges.

15. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein said predetermined distance is less than said ladder width.

16. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein said second ends of said first and second arms are spaced apart a distance that is less than the length of said beam.

17. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein a second ends of said first and second arms are spaced apart a distance that is at least equal to said ladder width.

18. The ladder stand-off of claim 10 wherein said first and second arms are angularly divergent with respect to each other.

19. The ladder stand-off of claim 18 wherein said first and second arms define an angle therebetween that is less than 90 degrees.